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Reject NAB's petition 04-160. The only reason I switched to XM Radio was one of choice. And it was a right decision, one which solved the problems with listening to AM/FM radio. As a consumer that pays to have this choice, the acceptance of NAB's petition would be a fundamental violation of consumer rights.

The problems with FM/AM radio is its revenue model. The listener pays a "cost" to FM/AM radio in the form of long and annoying advertisements, sponsorships, programmed, corporately-influenced announcers, cookie-cutter music, and subtle advertorials from the management and talk-show hosts. Every now and then you have weather and travel updates thrown in, peppered between jingles and sponsorship. The public airwaves is business for promoting these private self-interest groups and entertainers, not an access point for truly public information. Ironically, FM/AM radio is the least reliable form of news and information, discredited by their way of delivering information. The FCC is apparently another "interested-party" in the overall equation of NAB's business model within the scope of the petition. Who's regulating who here?

Satellite radio places the revenue-payment model to where it properly belongs: to the consumer. The model is driven by choice: there is something for everyone on XM radio. It should not be up to the National Association of Broadcasters to dictate my rights as a consumer in a free-market society. If it wasn't for XM radio, I would be a willing consumer to the narrowband: ignorant, unfree and without hope. But even more, I urge you to reject NAB's petition 04-160 on the grounds that it promotes a radio/listening cartel.